

No. 11.— *The Races of Dendroica vitellina* Cory.

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IN October, 1886, C. B. Cory described *Dendroica vitellina* from Grand Cayman Island and in 1904 Nicoll (Bull. B. O. C., 14, p. 95) named as *D. crawfordi* the form from Little Cayman and later (Ibis, ser. 8, 4, p. 587) noted the same from Cayman Brac. On Swan Island, as might be expected, a different subspecies occurs which is here described.

These three sedentary island forms are closely related to the migratory Prairie Wood Warbler — *Dendroica discolor* (Vieillot) of North America, from which they differ in being larger with a longer bill, in lacking the chestnut spotting on the back, in *all* the under tail-coverts being bright yellow, and in having the sides of the breast streaked with dusky olive instead of black (in *D. v. vitellina*) or almost unstreaked (in *D. v. crawfordi* and *D. v. nelsoni*).

The three races differ as follows:—

DENDROICA VITELLINA VITELLINA Cory.

Dendroica vitellina Cory, Auk, 1886, 3, 497, 501. Grand Cayman Island.

Characters.—Sides of breast conspicuously streaked with dusky olive; sides of the face, a narrow malar stripe and markings in front and behind the eye, strongly marked with dusky olive, sharply contrasting with the yellow ear-coverts and superciliary; double wing-bands, strongly marked, yellow, the upper lemon, the lower citron-yellow; white areas of two outer tail feathers, sharply contrasted against dusky portions of the feathers; upper parts warbler-green; lower parts lemon-yellow to pale lemon-chrome. The sexes are practically alike in color in all three races.

Measurements.—Adult ♂, wing, 56 (55–57); tail, 48 (47–50); tarsus, 17.5 (17–18); exposed culmen, 10.83 (10.5–11). Adult ♀, wing, 54.5 (53–56); tail, 47.5 (45–50); tarsus, 17.5 (17–18); exposed culmen, 10.5 (10–11).

Remarks.—*Dendroica vitellina vitellina* is confined to Grand Cayman

Island.¹ It is represented in the M. C. Z. by ten adult specimens in fresh spring plumage all collected by W. W. Brown Jr.

DENDROICA VITELLINA NELSONI, subsp. nov.

Type.—M. C. Z. 58,207. Adult ♀. Swan Island (Caribbean Sea), 12 March, 1912. George Nelson.

Characters.—Sides of breast almost unstreaked or with but faint dusky olive stripes; darker markings on sides of face much paler and more indistinct and not sharply contrasted with the yellow ear-coverts and superciliary; wing-bands duller, the upper usually olive-yellow, the lower ecru-olive; white areas of two outer tail-feathers less well defined and not sharply contrasted with the dusky portions of the feathers, which are duller; colors of upper and under parts similar to those of *D. v. vitellina*.

Measurements.—Adult ♂, wing, 57.9 (56-60); tail, 50.8 (49-52); tarsus, 18.7, (18-19.5); exposed culmen, 10.7 (10-11). Adult ♀, wing, 55.3 (53-58); tail, 48.9 (46.5-51); tarsus, 18.2 (17.5-19); exposed culmen, 10.6 (10-11).

Remarks.—The series of this form consists of thirty-seven skins, which includes adults in spring, in autumn, and in worn mid-summer plumage and young of various ages. One skin was made by C. H. Townsend on his visit to the island in 1887, the others were all collected by George Nelson of the M. C. Z. on several visits made at different times of year. Mr. Nelson also took the nest and eggs. I take great pleasure in naming the form after him.

Swan Island lies approximately a little over two hundred miles southwest of Grand Cayman, and Little Cayman and Cayman Brac are about seventy miles east and north of Grand Cayman. In its characters, however, *D. v. nelsoni* of Swan Island is more or less intermediate, and the two extreme forms are those of Grand Cayman and of the two smaller islands of the Cayman group.

DENDROICA VITELLINA CRAWFORDI Nicoll.

Dendroica crawfordi Nicoll, Bull. B. O. C., 1904, 14, p. 95. Ibis, 1904, ser. 8, 4, p. 586, pl. 11, fig. 1. Little Cayman Island.

¹ Ridgway, Birds of North and Middle America, 1902, pt. 2, p. 611, in the synonymy of *D. vitellina* gives his second reference to the species as—(Cory, Auk) "IV, 1887, 181 (St. Andrews I. Caribbean Sea)." Turning to the page of the Auk quoted I find Cory's list of the birds of St. Andrews Island, but no mention of *Dendroica vitellina*!

Characters.— Besides differing from *D. v. vitellina* exactly as *D. v. nelsoni* does, this form differs from both in having paler, yellower, less greenish upper parts — pyrite-yellow; and deeper yellow under parts, superciliaries and sides of face — intense lemon-chrome.

Measurements.— Little Cayman Island, adult ♂, wing, 57 (55-59); tail, 49.7 (46-53); tarsus, 18.3 (17.5-19); exposed culmen, 11.2 (11-12). Adult ♀, wing, 54.9 (53-57); tail, 48.5 (47-51); tarsus, 18.2 (17-19); exposed culmen, 10.9 (10.5-11). Cayman Brac Island, adult ♂, 56.4 (55-58); tail, 49.2 (47-52); tarsus, 18.2 (17-19); exposed culmen, 11 (10.5-11.5). Adult ♀, wing, 52.5; tail, 47; tarsus, 17.5; exposed culmen, 11. (One female only).

Remarks.— *D. v. crawfordi* is confined to the two neighboring islands of Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. The M. C. Z. series consists of twenty-three specimens from Little Cayman, including adults in summer and autumnal plumage and young in first autumnal dress. From Cayman Brac there are fourteen adults in summer plumage. All were collected by W. W. Brown Jr.